

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph on page 2, lines 15 to 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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M Although nodes, except a repeater, in general, have various components including a link layer in addition to main components such as a bus power-supply circuit, description will be made in the following with reference to each drawing having illustration only of main components for making the present invention be easy to understand.

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 18, line 27, and continuing to page 19, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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X2 The preferred embodiment of the present invention will be discussed hereinafter in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the following description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of the present invention. It will be obvious, however, to those skilled in the art that the present invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instance, well-known structures are not shown in detail in order to avoid unnecessary unnecessarily obscure obscuring the present invention.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 19, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

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X3 ~~{First Embodiment}~~ FIRST EMBODIMENT

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Please replace the paragraph on page 21, lines 8 to 16, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A4  
In addition, the voltage detection unit 3 detects supply/non-supply of a power-supply voltage from the power-supply voltage input terminal 1 to the power-supply circuit 2. In the present embodiment, the voltage detection unit 3 detects an output voltage of the power-supply circuit 2 to detect supply-non-supply of a power-supply voltage. This arrangement ~~enables determination~~ provides that no power-supply voltage is supplied ~~to be made also~~ when the power-supply circuit 2 fails.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 22, line 14, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A5  
[Second Embodiment] SECOND EMBODIMENT

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Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 22, line 26, and continuing to page 23, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A6  
A first electrode 41a of the transistor 41 is connected to power-supply terminals 81 and 91. A second electrode 41b of the transistor 41 is connected to a physical layer 6 through a DC-DC converter 5 and to a power-supply circuit 2 as well through the diode 13. The diode 13 is inserted for preventing reverse current from the power-supply terminals 81 and 91 from flowing to the power-supply circuit 2 on the power-supply voltage side.

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Please replace the paragraph on page 25, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A7  
[Third Embodiment] THIRD EMBODIMENT